Hypsibema

Hypsibema is a little-known genus of dinosaur from the Late Cretaceous (Campanian stage, around 75 million years ago). Its giant fossils were found in the U.S. states of North Carolina and Missouri. It is believed to be a hadrosauroid, although the Missouri remains were first thought to belong to a small sauropod ("Neosaurus", renamed *Parrosaurus*).

The type species, *Hypsibema crassicauda*, was described by Edward Drinker Cope, and was found in Sampson County, North Carolina in 1869.[1] The generic name is derived from Greek υψι/*hypsi*, "high", and βεμα/*bema*, "step", as Cope believed that the species walked particularly erect on its toes. The specific name means "with a fat tail" in Latin. The syntypic series, USNM 7189, originally consisted of a caudal vertebra, a metatarsal, and two femoral fragments that were originally identified as humeral and tibial fragments, all found in 1869 by North Carolina state geologist professor Washington Carruthers Kerr in the Black Creek Group of North Carolina. A second vertebra referred to the species, USNM 6136, was later discovered by Edward Wilber Berry and referred to *H. crassicauda* in 1942.[2] In their 1979 review of dinosaur remains from the Black Creek Group, Baird and Horner (1979) noted that the femoral fragments come from a tyrannosauroid similar to *Dryptosaurus*, and made the caudal vertebra included in the syntype series of *H. crassicauda* the lectotype, while stating that the metatarsal could not belong to the same individual as the caudal.[3]

Parrosaurus was considered a species of *Hypsibema*, *H. missouriensis*, Donald Baird and Jack Horner in 1979,[3] and since 2004 the official state dinosaur of Missouri. It was considered dubious in both editions of the *Dinosauria*,[4][5] although Chase Brownstein considers *Parrosaurus* valid and distinct from *Hypsibema* based on new discoveries at the holotype site.[6]

See also

- Timeline of hadrosaur research

References

1. E.D. Cope, 1869, "Remarks on *Eschrichtius polyporus*, *Hypsibema crassicauda*, *Hadrosaurus tripos*, and *Polydectes biturgidus*", *Proceedings of the Academy of Natural Sciences of Philadelphia* **21**: 191-192
2. ^Lull, R.S., and Wright, N.E. (1942). Hadrosaurian Dinosaurs of North America. Geological Society of

Hypsibema
Temporal range: Late Cretaceous, 75 Ma
H. crassicauda vertebra from North Carolina
Scientific classification
Kingdom: Animalia
Phylum: Chordata
Class: Sauropsida
Superorder: Dinosauria
Order: Ornithischia
Suborder: Ornithopoda
Infraorder: Iguanodontia
Superfamily: Hadrosauroidea
Genus: ***Hypsibema*** Cope, 1869
Type species
†***Hypsibema crassicauda*** Cope, 1869
Species
▪ †***Hypsibema crassicauda*** Cope, 1869 ▪ †***Hypsibema missouriensis*** Baird & Horner, 1979
Synonyms

America Special Paper 40:1-242.
3. D. Baird and J. R. Horner, 1979, "Cretaceous dinosaurs of North Carolina", *Brimleyana* **2**: 1-28
4. Horner, John R.; Weishampel, David B.; Forster, Catherine A (2004). "Hadrosauridae". In Weishampel, David B.; Dodson, Peter; Osmólska Halszka (eds.). The Dinosauria (2nd ed.). Berkeley: University of California Press. pp. 438–463. ISBN 0-520-24209-2.
5. Weishampel, D.B., and Horner, J.R. (1990). Hadrosauridae. In: Weishampel, D.B., Dodson, P., and Osmólska, H. (eds.). The Dinosauria. University of California Press:Berkeley, 534-561. ISBN 0-520-24209-2
6. Brownstein, CD. 2018. The biogeography and ecology of the Cretaceous non-avian dinosaurs of Appalachia. Palaeontologia Electronica 21.1.5A: 1-56.

Neosaurus Gilmore & Stewart, 1945 (preoccupied)
Parrosaurus Gilmore, 1945

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